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DICTATED BY

30 BEACON STREET, BOSTON

Nov. 21, 1910

My dear Miss Tarbell:-

Your letter produces in me a curious state of mind compounded of joy that you have done so much, of regret that you have the slightest excuse for being at Clifton Springs Sanitarium, and of a little bit of shamefacedness at disturbing your rest while there.

The manuscript sent on does read like a very good preface to the book itself, but I think to conform to our scheme perhaps the editor of our manual will wish to take some of it for the manual, so I have had a copy sent to him and return the original to you. We will write you later showing just how we want the material divided between preface and manual. Undoubtedly we have here all that we shall need for the manual and for the preface too.

As for the length of introduction, that is a matter on which I do not care to dogmatize. I suppose mostly the children will know something about Abraham Lincoln, so that any detailed biographical

sketch may be omitted, with references given to literature already available on the subject. I should say, follow your own best instincts. You can use two pages or ten pages or thirty pages, which means simply that it is a matter of no special importance to us, but one which we leave entirely to your good taste and discretion.

We can go right ahead with the selections as soon as you get them together.

By the way, in the list of reference books that you do give in the preface I have not yet found any mention of a very excellent biography of Lincoln by Miss Ida M. Tarbell. This will be better known in the schools than any of those you have given, I think, and I am rather surprised that you should have overlooked such an important book of reference. If I do not find it included in at least a dozen places in the finished manuscript you send in, I shall feel obliged, I am sure, to exercise my editorial prerogative and put it in myself numerously.

I have been told that Clifton Springs is a very attractive place, but nevertheless I heartily wish you may get out of there at the earliest possible moment.

Very truly yours,

C. H. Thurber

Miss Ida M. Tarbell

Dictated to H.